

**DAV ARTHUR H. MUCHOW CHAPTER NO. 1  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING, APRIL 11, 2017**

The monthly membership meeting was called to order by Commander Gaylord Helmbrecht at 6:04 p.m. Commander Helmbrecht led the membership in a Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Acting Chaplain Mike Mace led the membership in prayer.

**OFFICERS PRESENT:** Commander Gaylord Helmbrecht, Sr. Vice Commander Owen Richards, Jr. Vice Dan Francis, Treasurer Gene Murphy, Quartermaster Steve Kilgour, EC John Huntington, EC Terry Mayer, EC Lacey VanEmmerik, Dept. EC Larry Bouska, and Dept. EC Helen Parr.

**OFFICERS EXCUSED:** Chaplain James Delvaux (Medical).

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** 40.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Ned Duma.

**READING OF March 14, 2017 MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES:** On a motion by Terry Mayer and seconded by Dan Francis to suspend with the reading of the minutes and to approve them as printed. Motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Treasurer Murphy presented the Treasurer's Report for the month of March 2017 with income of \$9,361.23, other income of interest of \$8.12, and expenses of \$12,183.59, leaving a net loss of \$-2,814.24.

The Chapter balance in the checking account as of April 30, 2017 is \$89,286.96.

Total checks written for the month of April was \$3,118.05.

Approximate assets of \$1,560,707.21 and liabilities of \$695.20.

Great Western Bank provided copy of the Chapter investments which is available to the membership.

On a motion by Larry Williams and seconded by Dan Francis to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion Carried.

**REPORTS OF SICKNESS AND DISTRESS:** The Chapter will not receive names of members who are in the VA Hospital because of HIPA policy.

**FILES:** Sgt.-At-Arms passed around files on Communication, Legislation, Employment, News Letters, and Public Relations.

**INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS AND VISITORS:** Commander Helmbrecht introduced Bob Burkhart, Mardel Burkhart, and Annette Nystrom.

**COMMANDER HELMBRECHT CALLED FOR COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**1. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT:** The minutes of the April 4, 2017, Executive Committee Meeting was presented by Chairperson Parr.

On a motion by Dan Francis and seconded by Owen Richards to approve the Executive Committee minutes as printed. Discussion. Motion Carried.

**2. MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT:** Sr. Vice Commander Richards reported the following: Membership summary was provided in the Executive Committee minutes of March 28, 2017; Chapter is at 101.54% of goal; and Department is at 100.76% of goal. Timothy Bowden is requesting to transfer from NOMAD Chapter No. 52 to Arthur H. Muchow Chapter No. 1.

On a motion by Gene Murphy and seconded by Helen Parr to allow membership transfer of Timothy Bowden to Arthur H. Muchow Chapter No. 1. Motion carried.

**3. LEGISLATIVE REPORT:** Director Lantgen provided the following handout: National Commander Testifies Before Joint Session of Congress; Commemorative Stamp For DAV 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary; VA Secretary Praises Congress For Extending Choice Program; H.R. 1329 - COLA Bill Introduced in House; S. 324 and H.R. 1005 The State Veterans Home Adult Health Care Improvement Act of 2017; S. 681 The Debra Sampson Act To Improve VA Services for Women Veterans; Rounds, Manchin Introduce Bipartisan Bill to Give Purple Heart Recipients Full to Post-9/11 GI Bill Benefits; Blue Water Navy Veterans; Camp Lejeune Water Exposure Update; S.423 – CHAMPVA Children’s Protection Act; H.R. 846 – The Military Surviving Spouse Equity Act; S.116 – Space Available Air Travel; H.R.369; H.R. 1181; H.R. 1259; H.R. 1367; H.R. 1379; New Veterans Legislation – S.493; S.521; S.514; H.R. 1359; H.R. 1331; H.R. 1329; H.R. 1328; USS South Dakota Christening 2017; and Study Highlights Employers Misconceptions About Disabled Workforce.

**4. PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORT:** Jr. Vice Commander Francis reported the DAV Public Relations Book for FY 2016-2017 is up-to-date and available for membership review. Invite all members to bring in Veteran articles.

**5. SIOUX FALLS VETERANS COUNCIL REPORT:** Terry Mayer and Helen Parr reported the following:

- \* Minutes of March 16, 2017, provided to the members.
- \* Sioux Empire Veterans Golf Tournament scheduled for May 13<sup>th</sup> at Hidden Valley Golf Course in Brandon. Chapter provided \$100.00 to sponsorship of hole and \$100.00 for door prizes.
- \* Armed Forces Day will be May 20<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. at the VA Health Care System.
- \* Memorial Day Ceremony will be May 29<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. at the VA Health Care System.
- \* Flag Day is June 14<sup>th</sup>.
- \* Ken Burns Vietnam Series will be shown at the VFW Post in Sioux Falls on June 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. and the Series will be shown on T.V. on September 10<sup>th</sup>.
- \* The University of South Dakota received a \$50,000.00 grant from Traveling Wall Fund. The Traveling Wall will be in Chamberlain to view on August 10-13, 2013.

**6. DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT:** DEC Bouska reported the following:

- \* The DAV Department Convention being held in Ft. Pierre on April 28-30th.

- \* The 1st Annual Harley-Davidson raffle tickets are still available to buy tickets or sell.
- \* The members congratulated NSO Owen Richards on his promotion on becoming the NSO Supervisor.
- \* Reminded the members if they would like to receive the DEC to turn in their emails and information.

**7. DAV NATIONAL SERVICE OFFICE REPORT:** No report.

**8. VA UPDATE & SD DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS:** Helen Parr and Ken Lantgen reported the following: Vets.gov – Get The VA Services You’ve Earned; VA Secretary Makes Strides to Improve Veterans Experience; VA, DOD Study A Major Breakthrough For Understanding PTSD; VA And GAO Agree: Appeals Reform Needed; SDPB To Bring “The Wall That Heals” To Chamberlain In August; Schedule Changes at Wagner Outreach Clinic; Black Hills National Cemetery To Honor Vietnam Veterans; Black Hills National Cemetery To Honor The 100-Year Anniversary Of The United States Entering World War I; Howard Wood Dakota Relays To Honor South Dakota Veterans; VA Now Providing Online Daily Burial Schedules For Its National Cemeteries; Ground Breaking For New VA Clinic In Dakota Dunes; USD Student Veterans Hosting 5K Fun Run Under Title RED, Which Stands For Remember Everyone Deployed; Legislation To Protect Veteran Credit Scores Has Been Introduced; VA Awards Grants To Develop Technology To Help Veterans, Service Members Modify Homes; and SDPB Radio Interview USD Students Who Participated In Veteran History Project.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**1. DAV 2017 ANNUAL DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH DAKOTA CONVENTION & RAFFLE PROJECT:** Director Lantgen provided information on the DAV 2017 Annual Department of South Dakota Convention; Convention Awards Program; and Convention Raffle Program.

The convention will be held on April 28-30, 2017, at the AmericInn Lodge & Suites in Ft. Pierre. Information was provided on lodging, registration, meals, and deadlines dates.

The Chapter have approved the following:

- \*\$70.00 registration fee, half room fees, and transportation (Approve Chapter vehicle and gas for vehicles if needed) for eligible delegates.
- \*\$150.00 for convention booklet advertisement.
- \*\$10.00 per deceased member for FY 2016-2017 for the DAV Department Service Foundation.
- \*\$200.00 to assist with the hospitality rooms.

The DAV National Service Office will conduct a DAV Chapter/Department Service Officers School on April 27<sup>th</sup> at the American Legion Post in Pierre. The Chapter has submitted the names for the class of Dan Francis, Gaylord Helmbrecht, Ken Lantgen, and Helen Parr.

**2. DAV & PVA HOST VA APPRECIATION PIZZA PARTY:** The pizza party will be on April 18th at the VA Patio or in the educational center at 11:30 a.m. pending on the weather. The Chapter needs volunteers. We are requesting volunteers to arrive 11:00 a.m.

Helen Parr, Terry Mayer, Gaylord Helmbrecht and Loretta Helmbrecht volunteered so far.

**3. DAV INFORMATIONAL SEMINAR:** NSO Richards has informed the Chapter that on April 21st there will be a DAV Informational Seminar from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., Lunch is from 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m., and Claims will be from 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. This will be held at DAV Headquarters in Sioux Falls.

**4. CHALLENGE COIN:** The challenge coin has arrived and the total price for 1,000 coins was \$1,289.79 which leaves us with a remaining available balance of \$510.21 to order other items for the Gulf War/Iraq/and Afghanistan Veterans before April 20th. Director Lantgen is requesting immediate ideas to get more gifts. We have considered pens which is about \$1.40 each plus shipping. We have also considered coffee mugs ranging from \$1.89 on up plus shipping. We could order stickers, pins, and/or other items.

Director Lantgen has contacted Shirley Redmond and she spoke with Director Goodspeed and does not foresee a problem doing this in the VA Front Lobby. Time and date is to be determined.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**1. DAV MITCHELL CHAPTER NO. 7:** The DAV Mitchell Chapter No. 7 is researching on closing their Chapter. The questions are if Chapter No. 7 closes does Arthur H. Muchow Chapter No. 1 of Sioux Falls want to bring the membership from Chapter No. 7 and re-name the Sioux Falls Chapter the Southeastern Chapter No. 1? The Executive Committee recommends accepting members from DAV Mitchell Chapter No. 7.

**2. VIETNAM VETS STILL COMING HOME BOOK:** A DAV member would like to donate \$1,000.00 to the DAV Arthur H. Muchow Chapter No. 1 to donate to the Vietnam Vets: Still Coming Home Book. All profits from the book will be donated to the Veterans organizations that belong to the South Dakota Veterans Council (American Legion, DAV Military Order of the Purple Heart, Paralyzed Veterans of American, Vietnam Veterans of America, and VFW). The organization has raised \$20,000.00 and need to raise \$35,000.00 for publication of the book. The Executive Committee approved accepting the \$1,000.00 donation and provide for the printing of the book.

**3. DAV ELECTION OF CHAPTER OFFICERS FY 2017-2018:** Commander Gaylord Helmbrecht provided a copy of the ballot for DAV Arthur H. Muchow No. 1 election for Chapter Officers for FY 2017-2018. Commander Helmbrecht appointed the following three (3) judges of Larry Williams, Kerry Nixon, and Otto Logan.

Owen Richards withdrew his name for the position of Sr. Vice Commander.  
Ken Lantgen withdrew his name for the position of Jr. Vice Commander.  
Mike Mace withdrew his name for the position of Chaplain.

On a motion by Gene Murphy and seconded by Dennis Adams to suspend with the rules and cast a unanimous white ballot for the following DAV Arthur H. Muchow Chapter No. 1 Officers for FY 2017-2018:

COMMANDER .....	Dan Francis
SR. VICE COMMANDER .....	Ken H. Lantgen Jr.
JR. VICE COMMANDER .....	Christian Stokes
TREASURER .....	Gene A. Murphy
QUARTERMASTER .....	Aric Kuusela
CHAPTER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE .....	John Huntington
.....	Steve Kilgour
.....	Terry Mayer
CHAPLAIN .....	Gaylord Helmbrecht
DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE .....	Larry Bouska
DEPARTMENT ALTERNATE EX. COMMITTEE .....	Helen Parr

Motion carried.

The newly elected Chapter Officers will be installed May 9th membership meeting.

**4. CHAPTER USEAGE:** Harry Sewell questioned the Chapter usage. The Chapter has events that are being utilized between the VA, MOPH, VVA, South Dakota Veterans Council, EX POWs, and other Organizations. The Chapter Executive Committee and membership approved that the decision to utilize the Chapter home would be up to the Adjutant.

Members have voiced their opinions on utilization of the entire chapter building on various events. Mr. Sewell questioned the usage about the EX POW Program and Luncheon to be able to only use half of the building. Adjutant Murphy informed the members that there was a program and luncheon plus a display on the north end of the building in which it took all the space. Also, the EX POW are members of the DAV.

#### **OTHER NEW BUSINESS:**

\* LVAP Coordination Larry Williams informed the members to turn in their names, and hours to submit to National up to April 1st since DAV Nationals LVAP system is down until June.

\*Director Lantgen requested for members to assist with helping a DAV Member transferring to Sioux Falls from Phoenix, AZ move into his home since he is unable to due to his disabilities.

\* Al Kingsley informed the members that the VA is going cashless beginning October 1st. All payments including travel pay will be direct deposited.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Commander Helmbrecht made the following announcements:  
On agenda sheet.

**MEMORIAL CEREMONY:** Commander Helmbrecht conducted a memorial ceremony on behalf of the deceased Chapter members: Willie L. Austin, James E. Gustafson, Marvin J. Stadum, and Warren A. Walsh.

#### **GOOD OF THE ORDER**

Members received the following handouts: Calendar.

- DAV Coming Events of April and May
- 2017 DAV & Auxiliary Annual Convention – Ft. Pierre
- 2017 Annual Convention Raffle
- DAV 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Harley Davidson Raffle Program
- DAV/PVA Pizza Party For Veterans, Volunteers, & Staff
- DAV Information Seminar
- Military Order of the Purple Heart State Convention – Rapid City
- Sioux Empire Veterans 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament – May 13<sup>th</sup>
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Day County DAV Tractor Pull
- Desert Storm, Iraq & Afghan Veterans Challenge Coin & Appreciation
- Congratulations to Supervisor NSO Owen Richards
- Donations to Service & Legislative Programs
- Vietnam Vets: Still Coming Home

- Election of Officers
- Women Veterans of Eastern South Dakota & Sioux Falls VA Health Care System
- World War I Exhibit Opens at Old Courthouse Museum
- DAV Mobile Service Office Schedule
- DAV Public Service Announcement
- Veterans/Law Enforcement Walleye Master Fishing Tournament
- SDPB To Bring “The Wall That Heals” to Chamberlain in August
- Save The Dates for USS South Dakota Summer 2017 Christening

Annette Nystrom, Terry Munson, Bob Burkhart, and Christian Stokes names were drawn for the DAV door prizes.

Winner of the 50/50 drawing was Hoot Gibson in the amount of \$ 54.00.

On a motion by Gene Murphy and seconded by Helen Parr for adjournment of the membership meeting. Motion carried. May 9th at 5:30 p.m. dinner and 6:00 p.m. meeting will be the next monthly dinner/meeting.

The membership was led in prayer by Acting Chaplain Mike Mace and the membership rendered honor to the Flag. The meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

Submitted by Ken Lantgen, Director

04/17